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CLOSE TO \$2 MILLION AWARDED FOR UNIVERSITY LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT LINE

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Sen. Bob Bennett (R-Utah), member of the Senate Appropriation's Subcommittee on Transportation, is pleased to announce that the U.S. Department of Transportation will award the Utah Transit Authority \$1,981,286.00 for the extension of the University Light Rail Transit (LRT) Line.

These awarded funds are a result of Bennett's involvement in the fiscal year 2001 Transportation Appropriation Bill. This appropriation follows the full funding grant agreement entered into earlier last year between UTA and the Federal Transit Administration to seek funding for the light rail extension. The total federal share in the light rail project is \$84.6 million. This \$1.98 million installment is the first in a series of federal share payments scheduled to be paid out by 2003.

"The success of Utah's light rail system is due in part to the federal government recognizing our state's transportation challenges and acknowledging its role in helping to address these needs," Bennett said. "Today's award is evidence of that support."